

Mayor Michael L. Cohen  
Commissioner William A. Fiore  
Commissioner John R. Murphy

# Longport TownTopics

January 2003

## *Brrrightening* holiday spirits on a blustery winter's day

Children and adults braved frigid temperatures to attend the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the newly designated Municipal Christmas Tree at the Krechmer Pavilion Dec. 7.

The tree was planted last year as a memorial to those who died in the terrorist attacks September 11, 2001. Children decorated the evergreen with



The cold weather did not stop children from decorating the borough tree where Santa Claus stopped to visit with candy canes.

handmade seashell ornaments.

Once the lights were switched on the tree, the red lights and siren of a fire truck filled the night as Santa rounded the corner waving to the children from the top of his wheeled sleigh.

He brought candy canes for all the children.

Later, everyone crossed the street to Totaro Hall where hot chocolate, brownies and cookies were served. Some decided to spread additional holiday cheer by singing Christmas carols.



Commissioner John Murphy, Mayor Michael Cohen, Monsignor Joseph P. Herron and Commissioner William Fiore stand in front of the new Municipal Christmas Tree Dec. 7 at the Krechmer Pavilion.

see **lighting** on page 2

## Longport seniors invited to join together for a free hot meal this January 15th

The first free luncheon for Longport's senior citizens is scheduled for Jan. 15th from noon to 3 p.m. at the Centennial Ballroom inside Borough Hall located at 2305 Atlantic Ave.

The goodwill of the holidays continues this month with the new winter program.

Space is still left for Longport seniors who wish to attend the upcoming luncheon. In order to RSVP for the event, please call 823-2731 ext. 100 or 119 before Jan. 10.

Maloney's restaurant will be catering the first of the three luncheons and entertainment will be provided.

Additional luncheons are scheduled for February 12 and March 12 from noon to 3 p.m. Reservations are still being accepted, but space is limited.

Additional sponsors for the luncheons are still being sought. Those interested may call 823-2731 ext. 100 or 119 for more information.

## Precautionary measures for beachfront residents

Three beachfront homes were recently damaged by fire in the past two months.

The Longport Volunteer Fire Department was able to contain the fires and keep them from spreading to adjacent buildings. The fires were a result of electrical wire corrosion in outdoor lighting.

Some older outdoor lighting fixtures, particularly those by the ocean, may have been dangerously weathered by the salt air.

Fire Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton recommends that homeowners have an electrician inspect lights and wiring to help prevent future fires.

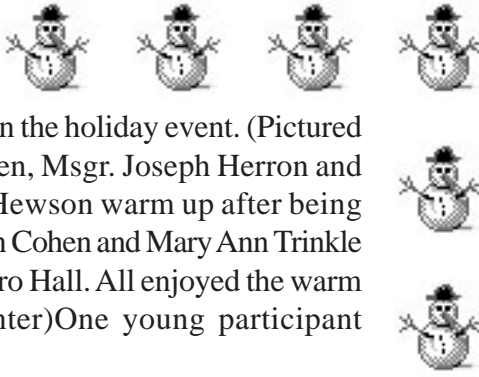
Mayor Michael Cohen, Commissioner William Fiore, Commissioner John Murphy and all borough employees would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.



## Lighting

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Many participated in the in the holiday event. (Pictured right) Mayor Michael Cohen, Msgr. Joseph Herron and Borough Clerk Kathleen Hewson warm up after being out in the cold. (Below) Ellen Cohen and Mary Ann Trinkle ladled hot chocolate in Totaro Hall. All enjoyed the warm holiday spirit. (Right center) One young participant samples the candy canes.



### Borough Hall Telephone Directory

Main Number: 823-2731  
Extensions:  
Mayor Cohen (voice mail)- 102  
Commissioner Fiore- 822-5759  
Commissioner Murphy (voice mail)- 121  
Borough Clerk's Office- 100  
Public Works- 822- 5759  
Mayor's Secretary- 119  
Municipal Court- 112/113  
Tax Collector- 111  
Tax Assessor- 103  
Police/Fire non-emergency- 822-2141  
Construction Code- 108/109  
Zoning Office- 114  
Building Compliance/Complaints- 107  
Finance Information- 117

### Awarding the Righteous for deeds of courage

The Mayor and Commissioners presented Anna Kopec of Poland with a "Righteous Person" award to commend her for her selfless acts of courage. During the Holocaust in Poland, Kopec helped save the life of her Jewish neighbor Sally Krueger-Charsinsky and others by hiding them in her home. By doing so, she risked her own life as well as her family's.



(left to right) Commissioner John Murphy, Anna Kopec, Mayor Michael Cohen, Sally Krueger-Charsinsky and Commissioner William Fiore.

## Sharing their Christmas Wish List with Santa Claus

Santa took some time out of his busy schedule this Christmas to visit the Longport Volunteer Fire Department where he had lunch with many local children on Dec. 8.

After lunch, many of the boys and girls took the opportunity to unroll their Christmas wish lists early.



## Graduating from the academy

Ptl. James Silva graduated from the Gloucester County Police Academy on Dec. 19, 2002.

(Picture above, right to left) Ptl. James Silva and Police Chief Scott Porter at Silva's graduation. The following members



of the Longport Police Department attended Silva's graduation as representatives: Chief Scott Porter, Ptl. Joseph Baumgardner, Ptl. Tom Rocco, Ptl. Chris Ricciotti and newly sworn-in Joe Vola.

## Tearing down the walls



Work is underway to build a new community center/beach patrol station for the summer of 2003. (Above) The 50-year-old building was demolished on Dec. 17. (Below) A rendering of the new building.



## Increase in ACUA fees, reflected in borough sewerage rate fees

A recent increase in the sewerage rate implemented by the Atlantic County Utility Authority, has translated to a higher fee in municipal rates.

To raise the amount of money needed to maintain the town's utilities, the govern-

ing body decided to increase the utility rate and not increase the tax levy. "This way, the cost will be based upon usage," according to Comm. William Fiore.

The ordinance is scheduled for a public hearing Jan. 8.

## A concert of carols



The Peanut Butter Players sang holiday songs at the Annual Christmas Concert sponsored by the Longport Historical Society Dec. 8 at the Historical Church of the Redeemer.



## Welcoming a new officer to the police department



**Mayor Michael Cohen swears in new police officer Joseph Vola Dec. 11 inside Borough Hall Commission Chambers.**

The Longport Police Department welcomed a new officer Ptl. Joseph Vola on Dec. 11.

Vola began his Police Academy training this past December, and will join the patrol force by this May.

## Longport's Man of the Year

Longport Mayor Michael Cohen, Commissioner William Fiore and Commissioner John Murphy named Monsignor Joseph P. Herron as Longport's Man of the Year Dec. 15 at the Church



**Commissioner William Fiore presents Monsignor Joseph P. Herron with an engraved clock at the Church of the Epiphany Social Club's Annual Christmas Dinner Dec. 15. Herron was named Longport's Man of the Year 2002.**

of the Epiphany Social Club's Christmas dinner.

Herron was named as the town's Man of the Year recipient due to his moral, spiritual and civic achievement and contributions to the community.

The Monsignor celebrated 40 years of spiritual service this past May. He has been the pastor at the Church of the Epiphany since 1998.

The importance of "Community Unity" is a theme that Herron includes in many of his sermons.

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### Town Topics

Is published by the Borough of Longport as a means to keep the community informed and up to date on current events and happenings in town.

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